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**Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and
their implications for international peace,
security and development**

**Identical letters dated 24 October 2008 from the Chargé d'affaires
a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the
Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit a statement, dated 24 October 2008, of the Parliament of Georgia on facts concerning violation of the ceasefire agreement by the Russian Federation (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 13, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Irakli Chikovani
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



**Annex to the identical letters dated 24 October 2008 from the
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the
President of the Security Council**

**Statement of Parliament of Georgia on facts concerning violation
of the ceasefire agreement by the Russian Federation**

The Parliament of Georgia expresses grave concern due to the continuous blatant violation by the Russian Federation of the six-point ceasefire agreement reached with the mediation of the European Union on 12 August 2008. The agreement unambiguously commits the Russian Federation to withdraw forces to the pre-6 August lines, which should result in vacating the occupied Akhalkgori district, the Georgian villages around Tskhinvali, the village of Perevi in Sachkhere district and Upper Abkhazia. To the contrary, Russian armed forces concentration and provocation activities continue in the conflict region. Specifically, on 22 October, 2,000 soldiers were placed in the conflict region and their total number is more than 7,000 on the former territory of the South Ossetia Autonomous Region. In addition, 40 units of heavy military equipment have been imported to the Akhalkgori district. Also, obvious aggressive military road constructions have started from Tskhinvali to Akhalkgori. All of the above-mentioned activity increases the danger of aggression/aggravation. Ethnic cleansing committed in the occupied territories with the direct participation and assistance of the Russian Federation puts it in direct breach of fundamental principles of human rights and international documents. Recognition of the independence of Abkhazia and the former Autonomous Region of South Ossetia constitutes a serious breach of international law, an attempt to legalize results of ethnic cleansing and an annexation of Georgian territory. The Parliament of Georgia calls upon the international community and Parliaments of our friend countries to:

1. Demand from the Russian Federation that it fully comply with the agreement of 12 August 2008;
2. Demand from the Russian Federation that it refrain from further violations of Georgian airspace, provocative actions or rhetoric, including the setting up of military bases in Abkhazia and the former Autonomous Region of South Ossetia;
3. Demand from the Russian Federation that it grant international observers, in the first instance observers of the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), permission to observe activities in the whole territory of Abkhazia and the South Ossetia Autonomous Region;
4. Demand from the Russian Federation that it reverse the results of the ethnic cleansing it committed and support secure and proper return of all internally displaced persons;
5. Demand from the Russian Federation that it comply with resolution No. 1633 of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, article 22.4, obliging the sides to "work towards the creation of a new peacekeeping format and to internationalize the peacekeeping force";

6. Demand from the Russian Federation, in line with article 9 of the above resolution, that it withdraw recognition of Abkhazia and the former Autonomous Region of South Ossetia;

7. Support the elaboration and launch of an international independent investigation mechanism on conflict escalation and grounds within a short space of time.
